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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION DOCKETED

NOV 13 2000

CARL J. KUNASEK

Chairman

JIM IRVIN

Commissioner

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL

Commissioner

DOCKETED BY

JM

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF) DOCKET NOS. T-02432B-00-0026
SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY,) T-01051B-00-0026
L.P., FOR ARBITRATION OF)
INTERCONNECTION RATES, TERMS) DECISION NO. 63135
CONDITIONS AND RELATED)
ARRANGEMENTS WITH U S WEST)
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.) ORDER

Open Meeting
November 7 and 8, 2000
Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On January 11, 2000, Sprint Communications Company, L.P. ("Sprint") and U S WEST Communications, Inc. (now "Qwest") filed a petition for arbitration of Interconnection Rates, Terms and Conditions pursuant to Section 252(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act").

2. The 1996 Act directed incumbent local exchange carriers to make their networks available for interconnection and resale by new entrants to the local exchange market. The 1996 Act provides for interconnection and resale agreements to be concluded by voluntary negotiation. If the parties cannot successfully negotiate all of the rates, terms and conditions of an interconnection agreement, any party could request that the Commission arbitrate any open issues.

3. On June 13, 2000, the Commission issued Decision No. 62650, setting forth its resolution of the issues in dispute and directing the parties to file a written Interconnection Agreement within thirty days containing the terms and conditions of interconnection, including both those items that were voluntarily resolved between the parties and those on which the Commission directed a resolution. On August 4, 2000, the parties filed the Agreement. On October 10, 2000, the parties re-filed the final Interconnection Agreement.

5. In the arbitration proceedings, conducted by the Commission's Hearing Division, only those matters in dispute were considered and included in Decision No. 62650. The Hearing Division has reviewed the Interconnection Agreement between Sprint and USWC insofar as the issues subject to arbitration are concerned and has indicated that the contract language as presently written is in compliance with Decision No. 62650, and that there are no grounds for rejection pursuant to Section 252(e)(2)(B) of the 1996 Act.

7. Since the voluntarily-negotiated portions of the Interconnection Agreement are non-discriminatory and in the public interest, and the arbitrated provisions are in conformance with Decision No. 62650, Staff recommends that the Interconnection Agreement between Sprint and Qwest be approved.

1. Sprint is an Arizona public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.

3. The Commission, having reviewed the Application and Staff's Memorandum, has determined that the Interconnection Agreement negotiated between Sprint and Qwest meets the requirements of Section 252(e)(2)(B) of the 1996 Act which governs the approval of Arbitrated agreements and is in the public interest.

...

1 by the Arizona Constitution, Statutes, Commission Rule, and the 1996 Act and the Rules
2 promulgated thereunder.

3 ORDER

4 THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the Commission hereby approves the
5 Interconnection Agreement between Sprint and USWC filed on October 10, 2000.

6 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

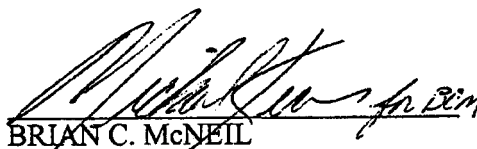
7 **BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

8 
9 CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

10 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive
11 Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have
12 hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this
13 Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of
14 Phoenix, this 16th day of NOVEMBER, 2000.

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16 BRIAN C. McNEIL
17 Executive Secretary

18 DISSENT: _____

19 DRS:EAA:jbc
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